



Rental Boat Safety Checklist. A completed Rental Boat Safety Checklist is valid proof of competency when signed (by customer and Living Water Adventures rental agent) AND carried on board during the rental period. Initial on lines provided to confirm you understand each item the Living Water Adventures agent reviewed or demonstrated.

✓ BEFORE YOU GO

You, the undersigned and the operator of this boat/pwc:

- Confirm that there are enough life jackets of the proper size for all people on board.
- Understand that everyone on board should wear a lifejacket at all times. (Required for PWCs)
- Are aware that it is illegal to operate a boat when under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Will not allow anyone else to operate this boat unless they have a valid proof of competency and meet the age and horsepower restrictions.
- Confirm that all required safety equipment for this type of boat is available, in good working condition and easy to access.
- Understand when and how to use the safety equipment on board this boat.
- Have been informed of local hazards that present a risk such as shallow water, submerged objects, currents and weather patterns.

✓ ON THE WATER (see attached)

You, the undersigned and operator of this boat/pwc:

- Have read the rules of navigation to be respected that are attached as part of this document.

✓ EMERGENCY

You, the undersigned and operator of this boat/pwc:

- Know the actions to take if anyone falls overboard, if the engine breaks down, or if the boat runs aground or capsizes.
- Know you are required to stop and offer assistance in case of an accident or distress call.
- Have been informed on how to get help if there is a mechanical breakdown or other emergency.

✓ BOAT/PWC SPECIFIC

You, the undersigned and operator of this boat/pwc:

- Know how to start and stop the engine, operate the throttle/gear shift, and safely maneuver this boat.
- Have been shown the engine cut-off device and understand how to use it.
- Have been shown safe refueling procedures for this boat/pwc.
- Have checked the drain plug and made sure it was properly secured.
- Are aware that turning may cause an abrupt and dangerous change of speed.
- Are aware that a wave can enter the rear (stern) of this boat if you try to stop too fast or turn too quickly, causing it to swamp or capsize.
- Are aware of how to depart and approach the dock in a safe manner.
- Know that you must anchor this boat from the front (bow).
- Know when and how to operate the navigation lights. PWCs do not have navigation lights and are not to be operated after sundown.
- Have informed that the maximum load capacity and the number of persons in this boat/pwc should not exceed the amount stated on the capacity plate.
- Have been informed about the proper way to distribute weight in the boat/pwc for a safe and comfortable ride and you will keep your guests in the safest positions at all times - always seated while underway.
- Are aware of the dangers of cold-water shock and hypothermia.
- Are aware of the safe distances in accordance with Michigan boating laws (attached).



✓ DAMAGES

You, the undersigned and operator of this boat/pwc:

- Agree to be responsible for all damages to and loss of boat/pwc, motor, equipment during the rental of said items.
- Confirm that you will operate the boat/pwc in conformity with all applicable navigation laws and in a safe and secure manner.



Boat/PWC type and description: _____

Boat rental ends at: _____

Boat number: _____

Area of operation: _____

Maximum number of persons allowed in boat/pwc: _____

Max weight allowed: _____

_____	_____	_____
Customer name (print)	Customer signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
LWA agent name (print)	LWA agent signature	Date



KEEPING YOUR PWC EXPERIENCE FUN AND SAFE

A Checklist from the U.S. Coast Guard and Living Water Adventures

General Operation

- I understand that the PWC I am renting is a high-performance boat, not a toy, and as such I will carefully observe and follow the instructions and safety rules I receive from my rental operator.
- I will ensure I have enough gas for my return back to the rental livery. I understand a good rule of thumb regarding fuel use is one-third out, one-third back in, and one-third in reserve.

Safety Equipment

- I will pay close attention to the required safety equipment instructions provided by my rental livery operator so that I am able to use it in the case of an emergency.

Life Jackets/Protective Wear

- I will ensure my passengers and I each have a U.S. Coast Guard approved life jacket that is the proper size for the intended wearer, is in good and serviceable condition (including straps and zippers) and is properly stowed.
- I understand that the U.S. Coast Guard recommends that I always wear a life jacket while underway on a boat and that many states require life jacket wear while operating a PWC. It is my responsibility to check with my livery operator or local Marine Patrol agency regarding state requirements.
- I understand that it is highly recommended to wear protective clothing such as a wet suit or wet suit bottom while operating the PWC due to the risk of internal injuries if water is forced into body cavities as a result of falling into the water or being near the jet thrust nozzle.

Starting/Stopping the PWC

- Before starting the engine, I will securely attach the engine shut-off cord/ lanyard to my wrist or life jacket and wear it at all times, keeping it free from the handlebars so that if I fall off of the PWC, the engine will stop.
- I understand that in order to turn off the engine, I need to push the stop button. I understand that the throttle controls the speed of my PWC. I understand that I should apply the throttle lever on the handle to accelerate and release it to slow down.

Braking/Stopping

- I understand that stopping the engine will not stop the forward motion of the PWC, and that on most PWC's, steering control is lost when the throttle is released or when the engine is turned off.

Riding at Night

- I will not ride at night, as I understand that my PWC does not come equipped with navigation lights and most states do not allow PWC operation at night.

Safe Operation

- When operating my PWC, I will maintain a proper lookout and scan constantly with sight and hearing, being alert for conditions that limit my visibility or block my vision of others..
- I will always operate my PWC at safe speeds, taking into consideration the conditions around me, including other boats, weather, and visibility.
- I will refrain from weaving through vessels that are underway, stopped, moored or at anchor while exceeding a reasonable speed. I will not operate my PWC at an excessive speed in a slow speed area or in a swimming area with swimmers present.

Negligent Operation

- I will avoid making sharp turns and other maneuvers that make it difficult for others to avoid colliding with me or to understand where I am going.
- I will not jump wakes or waves, nor will I steer toward an object or person and then turn sharply in close proximity to that object or person in order to spray or attempt to spray them with the wash or jet spray of the watercraft, as this is unsafe operation.

Towing

- I will not tow with my PWC unless my PWC is designed and equipped for towing.
- I have been notified by my rental livery operator about state/local requirements related to towing.

Children and PWC's

- I have been notified by my rental livery operator what the minimum age requirement is for children to operate a PWC, and I understand that just because a child can reach the throttle of a PWC doesn't mean that they should.

Jet Drive Intake

- I understand that the jet drive intake has tremendous suction and will pull loose items, such as long hair, sand, stones, fishing line, loose clothing, or life jacket straps through the jet drive. I will keep these objects away from the intake grate.
- I will not apply the throttle when anyone is standing or swimming anywhere near the PWC.

Capsizing

- If I capsize in open water, I understand I should swim to the rear of the PWC and turn it upright. I am aware that a most PWC's have a decal at the bottom or rear of the vessel that indicates the direction to roll your PWC to return it to an upright position.

Signed

Date